

Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

November 23, 2007

Message from County Executive Walker

I hope that you and your family had a very happy Thanksgiving. Like so many of you, we got together to watch the Packers carve up the Lions before sitting down to carve the turkey. What an exciting game!

I am thankful that we were able to get together with my parents, my father-in-law and my grandmother. I am also thrilled that my brother, sister-in-law and their two daughters were back from Arizona this year.

I am also thankful for the many great people in this community. So many of you give of your time, talent and treasure now and throughout the year.

I am also thankful for my wonderful staff, our great employees, and for the endless number of people who support our efforts to reform county government.

As we prepare to put up our Christmas decorations, I hope that you will find new ways to celebrate the holidays with your loved ones. This weekend would be a great time to visit the holiday display at the Domes (and a good place to take your Christmas card photo). Next week, we will talk about the kickoff of the ice skating rink at Red Arrow Park and the tree lighting in the courthouse rotunda. And consider a winter visit to the Zoo – Family Free Day, sponsored by Pick'nSave and FOX6, is December 1st, along with the start of breakfasts and lunches with Santa. Visit www.milwaukeezoo.org for details.

Have a safe weekend!

Scott



Walker and Sheriff Clarke promote gun safety



County Executive Walker announced the donation of 1100 gunlocks from Master Lock Company at a news conference held at the Don & Sallie Davis Branch of the Greater Milwaukee Boys & Girls Clubs. Sheriff Clarke outlined the local gunlock distribution points: Safety Building, 821 W. State, rooms 102, 107 and 209; Airport Security Division, 5300 S. Howell; and the Patrol Division at 10190 W. Watertown Plank Road.

The program is part of Project ChildSafe, the nation's largest firearm safety education program. The program reminds gun owners to properly store firearms in the home. Executive Director Joe Trevino (at right in photo above) of the club appreciated the opportunity to make the community aware of the availability of the gunlocks. Both Walker and Clarke encouraged gun owners, especially in households with children, to use the locks as an added safety measure to prevent accidents. For additional information on the program, visit ProjectChildSafe.org.

United House groundbreaking



County Executive Walker breaks ground on the county's first new supportive housing facility for those with serious mental illness and substance abuse. Joining him at the site of the future United House were Erich Schwenker, President of Cardinal Capital Management; Supervisor Elizabeth Coggs-Jones; Rev. Elloyd Jones, Pastor of United Christian Church; and Antonio Riley, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA).

The project is financed through Milwaukee County's new Housing Trust Fund along with United Christian Church, Cardinal Capital Management and WHEDA, and is expected to be completed by fall 2008.

A detail of the model is pictured below:



Community events

County Executive Walker attended the Salvation Army Tree of Lights kick-off, taped a television interview with Archbishop Timothy Dolan, and received the "Building Milwaukee Award" from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) Milwaukee Chapter at their annual awards banquet.

Balloon-a-Palooza



More than 100,000 balloons, making up sculptures with a Bedtime Story theme, are on display through Nov. 25 at the Domes. County Executive Walker is pictured above at a previous event with balloon artist Carmen Ballering.

City-County tree lighting



County Executive Walker, pictured above with Supervisor Michael Mayo and performers at the City-County tree lighting ceremony, joined Mayor Tom Barrett and event emcee John McGivern in lighting the Christmas tree at Red Arrow Park.